



## New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

Manual:	NJAC	NJ Administrative Code Excerpts	Effective Date:
Title	10	Human Services	
Chapter	122C	Manual Of Requirements For Resource Family Parents	2/13/2012
Subchapter:	7	Health Requirements	
Section	4	<b>Psychotropic medication (N.J.A.C. 10:122C-7.4)</b>	

### §10:122C-7.4 Psychotropic medication

(a) Level I psychotropic medication requirements are as follows:

1. Before any psychotropic medication is administered to a child in placement, the resource family parent, in conjunction with the Division or contract agency caseworker, shall ensure that the child's initial assessment to determine the need for and the possible risks or side effects of psychotropic medication is completed by a board-certified or board-eligible physician in one of the following areas of expertise: psychiatry, neurodevelopmental pediatrics, or pediatric neurology.

- i. The resource family parent, in conjunction with the Division or contract agency caseworker, may utilize the services of the physicians identified in (a)1 above, a pediatric or family physician, or an advanced practice nurse certified in pediatric or family medicine or psychiatric/mental health, to complete an initial assessment, being conducted solely for the purpose of assessing Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and to determine the need for and the possible risks or side effects of the psychotropic medication.

2. The resource family parent shall be knowledgeable about the indications for the use of psychotropic medication, the therapeutic benefits and the side effects of such medication.

3. The resource family parent shall not administer psychotropic medication as a punishment or for the convenience of the resource family parent.

4. The resource family parent shall ensure that psychotropic medication is stored in an area inaccessible to children.

5. The resource family parent shall ensure that the child in placement receiving psychotropic medication is monitored in the following manner:

i. The resource family parent shall immediately report any observed side effects, which are identified in the assessment specified in (a)1 and (a)1i above, to the Division or contract agency caseworker and the prescriber.

ii. The resource family parent, in conjunction with the Division or contract agency caseworker, shall ensure that ongoing assessments, psychotropic medication monitoring, and resultant prescriptions for a child in placement only be conducted by a board-certified or board-eligible physician in one of the following areas of expertise: psychiatry, neurodevelopmental pediatrics, or pediatric neurology, or by an advanced practice nurse certified in psychiatric/mental health.

iii. The resource family parent, in conjunction with the Division or contract agency caseworker, may utilize the services of the physicians